



The Portal



BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL

630 Westminster Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3S1

TEL: (204) 784-1600 / FAX: (204) 774-5534

www.balmoralhall.com



Balmoral Hall, a leading contemporary all-girls school, is committed to a tradition of academic excellence. We educate, encourage and empower our girls and young women to achieve their personal best.

The Portal, a publication of Balmoral Hall School's Development & Alumnae Office, is distributed to over 4,000 members of the BH Family—parents, alumnae, grandparents, staff, former parents, former staff and friends of the School.

Head of School
Claire Sumerlus

Editors
Geneviève Delaquis
Tina Alto
Courtney Moir '98

Contributors

Anna AbouZeid '01
Kyla Belton '03
Sarah Briggs '02
Julia Cloutier '03
Sarah Coates '00
Amy Dhillon '03
Riya Ganguly '03
Joanne Kamins
Christina Kowalec
Deborah Morrison '81
Jane Polak Scowcroft '03
Melanie Riggs '06
Lois Robinson
Joanie Sheps
Judith Steek
Lyn Stephen '57
Heather Welch
Amy Wilton '03
Sarah Young '98

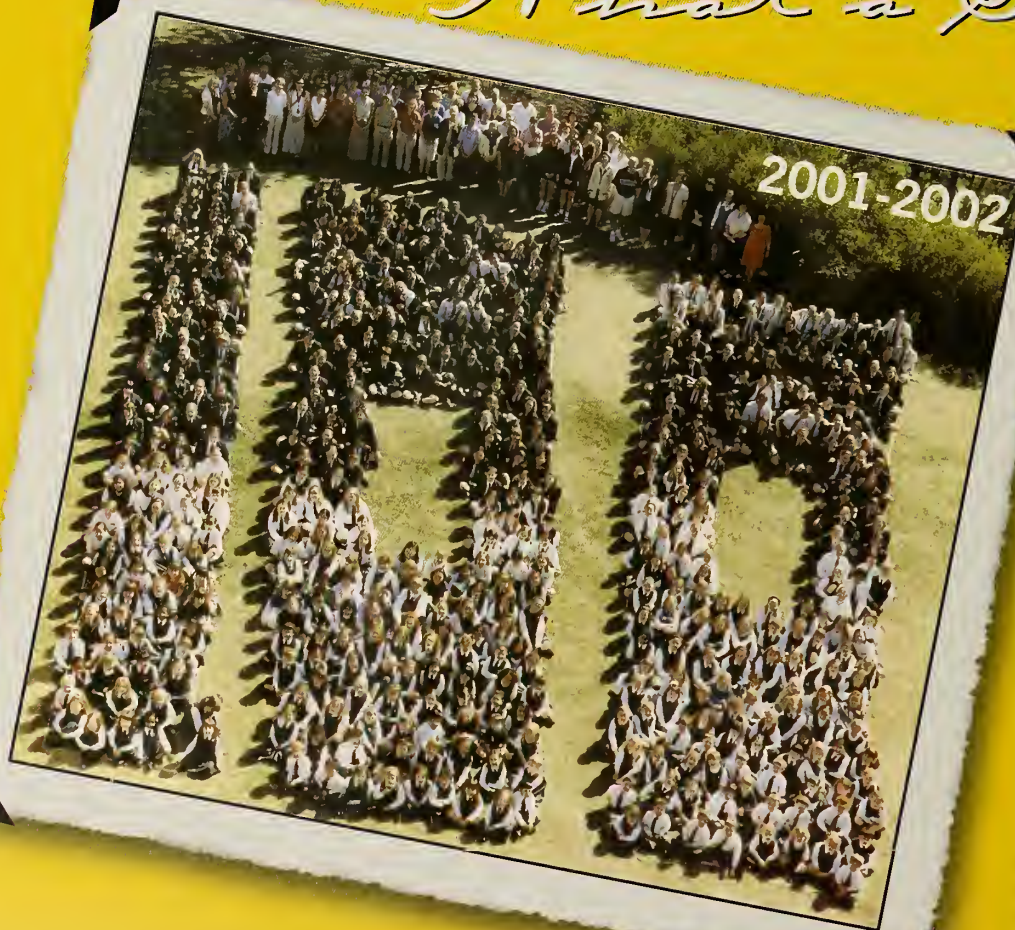
Balmoral Hall School
630 Westminster Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 3S1 Canada
Tel (204) 784-1600
Fax (204) 774-5534
E-mail: info@balmorallhall.com
www.balmorallhall.com

Design, Layout & Production
Bulman Communications Group Limited

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What a Year...

What a School!



Our Head of School...

Claire Sumerlus

It is hard to believe that our centennial year is over and that we are about to embark on our second century of academic excellence. Our aim is to provide a personalized education for each student that meets their needs, taps into their interests and talents and prepares them for the future.

This summer, Manitoba Education, Training and Youth released the Education Agenda for Student Success. It "represents a collaborative effort on the part of all education partners to strengthen programs and improve practices for the benefit of children and their families." The six priorities it outlines are based on what research indicates is vital for successful student achievement and will be addressed by Manitoba Schools over the next four years.

At Balmoral Hall School, we have already embarked on addressing each of the identified priorities and moved well beyond. Higher order thinking skills have been built into every program, JK to Senior 4. All three schools have been linked together with curriculum maps and vertical planning to ensure continuity in the teaching of knowledge, understanding, communication, and application to the real world.

Our Strategic Plan, A Time to Lead 2001–2004, was guided by the same criteria for success that the Education Agenda for Student Success outlines: "Schools are most successful when they have meaningful, clearly stated goals and a process for monitoring and reporting on the progress being made towards the achievement of these goals."

For the last three years, we have been defining the profile of a BH student in each of the areas of the MERIT Portfolio

Program. We have identified the most important qualities/attitudes of a successful student as she proceeds through the different grades and prepares for post secondary education and opportunities beyond. In this issue of *The Portal*, we have included examples of the six areas of student success that this program encompasses.

Last year we introduced the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (IBPYP) to Junior School and are currently the only school in Manitoba to offer it. Still in the early stages of development, we have already received positive feedback from parents. On the following pages we have illustrated a child's experience in an IBPYP environment.

Technology is the fastest growing area at BH. A new Language lab supports our ESL (English as a Second Language) program and as well as French and Spanish.

Several schools previewed our software and are modeling their labs around ours. This summer we were awarded a three-year grant from the Network of Innovative Schools to expand our lap top initiative and the specialized technology courses offered at the senior level. Facilitating technology integration in all subjects, we have installed wireless hubs throughout the school. By the end of the year our new web server will allow parents to access their daughter's progress, attendance, assignments etc. Building partnerships with experts in the IT sector has brought many new and exciting opportunities to the classroom. In this issue, students share their experiences.

School spirit is soaring! Support for our teams has been terrific and we are looking forward to another great year in athletics. Our House Program is being expanded to

build on our successes and provide more opportunities for student involvement.

Riding the positive experiences enjoyed during the Centennial Production we are moving towards a more in depth Performing Arts Program that will include new dance and voice opportunities for all students.

BH has a proud tradition of supporting our community. In the following pages we have highlighted a few special projects. Students complete at least 40 hours of Community Service in Senior School, participate in the Day of Giving/Sharing in Middle School and Junior School reaches out to our neighbours in many meaningful ways. Look for these stories in subsequent issues.

The collaboration and help from our Parents, Alumnae, Board of Governors and Community has been integral to our growth and achievements. Academic rigour, inquiry, creativity and the development of the whole child help us to "educate, encourage and empower our girls and young women to achieve their personal best." Increasing International Student enrollment, embarking on the IBPYP Program in Junior School, and our Taiwan Project (in this issue) have helped to bring a global perspective to BH. With enrollment strong and spirit at an all time high, this is a proud and exciting time to be a member of the BH Family.

Watch our next *Portal* for the profile of a BH student and more indicators of success.



The International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP)

...Through the eyes of a child

By PYP (Positive Young Person)

Hi!

I'm a grade four student at Balmoral Hall. I love going to this school. I really like the kids, lunches, assemblies, but most of all I love my classroom. I love where my desk is, close to the window and right next to my best friend. The thing I love the very most... my teachers.

They make the work we do fun and interesting. They make us think about everything – science, social studies, math, music – even in gym. Most teachers ask questions, but our teachers ask us to ask questions – not just the normal kind – the hard ones like – what are things like and what is our responsibility, why it is changing and then... we have to answer them!

Many of our answers to our questions are not found in books, so we need to go to the Internet, experts, or on field trips to find out the answers. One of my teachers said for us to think outside the box. It is hard to think sometimes – so hard it feels like my brain will pop! But it really feels good to find out answers to hard questions – it is like solving a really big worldly problem. I think



that someday one of us will become a famous scientist, or inventor because they solve problems in their jobs all the time. I like thinking about what I will be when I grow up because there are so many things to be...

When my teachers teach us they don't just teach us one thing, they talk about how things are joined and how it is in the real world. I love doing projects to show what we have learned – it is great to be an author and tell stories to all of our parents or to dress as a medieval knight and tell how and why he will slay a dragon.

Another thing I really like are the BH attitudes. These are important things like respect, integrity, tolerance, empathy and cooperation. It helps when the Prefects put on plays at assemblies that explain the meaning of these attitudes. Our teachers talk about them all the time, and we wear ribbons so that when we are playing with our friends on the playground and in the halls, we remember to show respect and cooperation. We talk about it in everything we do – when we're reading a story or talking about a game in gym – the BH attitudes are everywhere!!



I am really proud of the things we do in our school for other people – like sharing with the kids in the neighbourhood who don't have warm coats or mittens, or enough food to eat. We try to help them and it does make me appreciate my warm clothes. We do Jump Rope for Heart and Run for the Cure. By raising money we have fun and the money goes to doctors to help find the cure for heart disease and cancer.



what it means, but I do know that I really like learning at BH – I wake up every morning with a little excitement inside because I know that each day is a new one with so much to do and think about, it kind of makes me feel like jumping!



I know I'm lucky to go to a school like BH. We work hard and we play hard. My teachers and parents talk about the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP) in Junior School. I'm not sure exactly



The Goal

The goal of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) is to develop the individual talents of young people and teach them to relate the experiences of the classroom to the realities of the world outside. Beyond intellectual rigour and high academic standards, strong emphasis is placed on the ideals of international understanding and responsible citizenship, to the end that IB students will become critical thinkers, lifelong learners and informed participants in local and world affairs.

Balmoral Hall School is proud to be the only school in Manitoba to offer the IBPYP.

Six Main Organizing Themes of the IBPYP

1. Who are we
2. How the world works
3. How we express ourselves
4. Where we are in time and place
5. How we organize ourselves
6. Sharing the planet

Thanks to the Volunteers Who Have Taken Leadership Roles at BH

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Balmoral Hall School Opens in Taiwan

During the past school year, Mrs. Sumerlus, Head of School, and her senior staff led a detailed review of a proposal presented by one of the school's foreign agents to establish an English as a Second Language (ESL) school with a Taiwanese partner.

The goal of this partnership was to find a Canadian educational institution experienced in ESL that could provide a unique English language acquisition experience for students in Taipei. Balmoral Hall was their choice.



The first priority was to ensure that there would be no negative effect on Balmoral Hall's ability to continue delivering quality programs to current students. After much consideration, the opportunity to expand our Balmoral Hall expertise beyond the walls of our current school proved to be a worthy project.

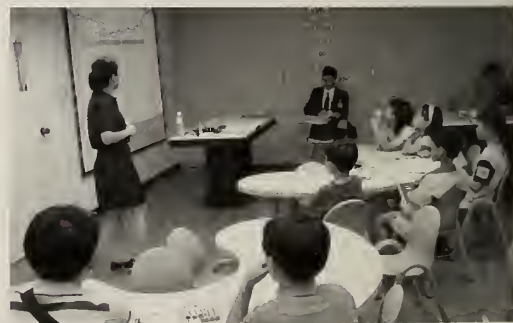
Balmoral Hall has entered into a licensing agreement to provide curriculum, assist in the screening and training of qualified teachers, and the use of the Balmoral Hall name in limited circumstances to create the BH System School in Taiwan. In exchange, Balmoral Hall receives a recurring annual fee and a fee for each graduate of the BH System School. Balmoral Hall does not accrue any of the operating liabilities of the new Taiwan school and is provided recovery of expenses including travel to Taiwan by our staff.

Balmoral Hall School also receives a heightened profile in a market where it is common for students to seek a North American senior school education. In addition, the BH ESL System (curriculum) developed by Mrs. Sumerlus and her senior staff, remains the property of BH and can be licensed to others in the future.

The school had a trial run this July and August when it offered a two-week English camp experience. At the request of parents, an additional two-week session was added. The BH System School was then officially opened in early September, staffed by three Balmoral Hall teachers.

Taiwanese children in Grades 1 and 2 go to their regular school in the morning and in the afternoons, attend the BH System School where an English-only learning environment is provided. An integrated curriculum, developed and adapted by BH staff, exposes students to Science, Math, Art, Reading and Technology (S.M.A.R.T.) according to their age and English level.

Using this integrated curriculum, an after-school program is also being offered to students in Grades 3 to 6. The English after-school program at the BH System School is unique from other after-school programs in Taiwan. A typical Taiwanese school employs a repetition and memorization teaching style. At the BH System School, a hands-on approach to understand subject-area terminology is used. This reflects the Canadian classroom experience and enables students to better prepare for future overseas education. Having small classes staffed with English speaking teachers allows students to develop their English language skills faster than in other programs.



Balmoral Hall is proud of this partnership as it reflects the School's strong international reputation.

Ever wonder what goes on at BH during the summer?

Well from July 23 to August 1, 42 Japanese students from our sister school, Shizuoka Eiwa, their 3 chaperones, 8 Balmoral Hall students, 4 counsellors and 4 Canadian teachers stayed in Residence and were involved in Japanese Summer School.

Japanese Summer Camp

By Sarah Briggs '02

During their visit to Winnipeg, the Japanese students took English classes with the Canadian teachers, where they learned about Winnipeg and English phrases that would help them during their stay in Canada. The Canadian students attended Japanese classes with one of the Japanese teachers, where they studied the Japanese culture.

After classes, the students were introduced to places and activities that are truly Canadian. They toured the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, the Legislature, the River Boat cruise (where they danced the night away), glow bowling, skating and

shopping – just to name a few. The Japanese girls' Canadian experience culminated with a fun filled weekend at the homes and cottages of several generous BH families. This was a truly wonderful experience for both the girls and the families.

As one of the counsellors – I had such a great time making friends and spending a week with the girls – I look forward to next year's Japanese summer camp!



Family Fun in the Scottish Highlands

June 19 to June 30, 2002

By Melanie Riggs '06

At the end of a long day of travel we finally arrived in Edinburgh. Mrs. Sumerlus (Head of School) and Ms Alto (Director of Development), my roommates and I took a much-needed nap. Jet lag! We awoke refreshed and so began our 10-day Scottish

adventure with an exploration of Edinburgh – the Royal Mile, Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood and even a ghost tour. On day 3 we loaded our bags onto the vans and drove to Mar Lodge (outside Braemar), our home base for the next 7 days. Upon arrival, we went on a short tour of this large country estate (formerly one of the Queen's hunting lodges and now operated by the Scottish National Trust). We had the lodge all to ourselves, except for a



few hundred deer heads that adorned the walls. That took some getting use to – especially in the dining hall, which was covered wall-to-wall or "antler-to-antler!"

When students and staff first arrive at BH, they are assigned to one of 4 houses named after the towns and mountain ranges we visited on this trip. To the north of Balmoral Castle is Glen Garin, south is Craig Gowan, west is the town of Braemar, and to the east is the town of Ballater. We spent many hours in these towns and mountain ranges and toured several castles including the Queen's Balmoral Castle. Everyday we explored the countryside via a variety of hikes. The scenery was just beautiful, as were the spectacular drives to tour a woolen mill and visit the Loch Ness Monster.

On our last day at the lodge, it was time to clean up our rooms, pack our backpacks one last time (which were exploding at the zippers from many overzealous shoppers) and undertake one final hike! The evening before we had a traditional Ceilidh, (party) held final championship rounds of cribbage and the



parents raised a glass (or two) to a great trip and a new bunch of BH friends.

Saturday morning started pretty much like the past nine

days with a drizzly, cool rain (destined to become sunny and warm). We took final group pictures and challenged the Braemar hike before the drive to Glasgow and the flight home. It was the trip of a lifetime – my visit to Scotland!



If They Could See Me Now



Students celebrated Balmoral Hall's 100th birthday with a multimedia song and dance production in January 2002. Over 350 performers from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12 entertained 2,000 audience members in the 5 performances of *"If They Could See Me Now,"* a musical journey of a young woman as she faces life's choices after graduating from Balmoral Hall.



If They Could See Me Now

The enthusiasm and excitement of the performers was a true reflection of the pride that the student body of 2001–02 felt in being an integral part of BH's centennial celebrations.



Decade Assemblies Held During 100th Year



*1901 – 2001
Celebrated!*



During the 2001–02 school year, monthly Decade Assemblies were held to celebrate our centenary.



Starting in September with the 1900s, students, staff, parents and alumnae were invited to honour a decade of our past. By way of skits, dances, and video presentations, students brought each decade to life. They also brought back fond memories for the alumnae who graduated in those decades – seen here are some of our special guests.

My Harvard Experience

By Riya Ganguly '03

This summer, one thousand highly motivated high school students from around the world were chosen to take two four-unit or one intensive eight-unit university course of their choice at Harvard University. I was lucky enough to be among them.

Upon arriving at Harvard, I immediately found myself in the lap of a world of learning. Forced to be independent, I dragged my suitcases across the famous Harvard Yard and into Wiggelsworth G, my new dorm and home for the next two months. After meeting with my roommates, we explored Harvard's extraordinary campus. We saw Widener Library with its millions of books, Sever Hall with its intricate architecture and Harvard's church, where we were fortunate to witness a wedding. We then ate dinner at Annenberg Hall, a place that would provide us with many wonderful conversations and memories over the course of the summer.

The first week gave us an opportunity to 'shop for courses,' sign up for activities such as Latin dance, choir, orchestra, kickboxing etc. and meet new people. After the hustle of the first week, we began to concentrate on our selected course that in my case was an eight-unit chemistry course. Apart from learning

about redox reactions and molecular kinetics, I also learned that university classes differ quite a lot from high school classes. There were no handouts. All notes were to be taken by hand. Our labs were written out, however the instructor gave us leave to perform the experiment in whatever way we chose. The freedom of university can be a joy but it can also prove to be difficult as well.

But it wasn't all work and no play at Harvard. Apart from Chemistry and Latin dancing, I explored the town of Cambridge, and went on trips to Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard as well as several university trips to Yale, Dartmouth and Brown. This experience enabled me to meet new people, life long friends and gain a new sense of learning.

Forget the beach, I learned a lot more at chemistry camp!



A Trip to Toronto and a Camera for the School?

What More Could a Girl Ask for?

By Jane Polak Scowcroft '03

My weekend was filled with much much more than anticipated. In celebration of March 21st, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Government of Canada, in conjunction with MuchMusic, held a nation-wide video contest. The video was a minute long piece stressing the importance of multiculturalism and the need for respect amongst all people. There were a total of 1,100 student entries from every province and territory in Canada. Much to my surprise and delight, my entry was chosen as the winner from Manitoba.

The stay was hectic, with early morning breakfasts, CBC and MuchMusic show recordings, awards ceremonies – including receiving a new Panasonic video camera for Balmoral Hall presented by Claudette Bradshaw, the Minister of Labour and Secretary of State (Multiculturalism), workshops with film

producers from the National Film Board, and a tour of the Canadian Film Centre. The strategies for achieving a non-racist world were high priority of course, but many of the winners were fledgling filmmakers, so talk was fast paced and saturated with pop culture reference. By a landslide vote, Kubrick was named "Favourite Director!"

Although the short trip was quick and frantic, we still found time to wander around the beautiful buildings of downtown Toronto, and spend a fair chunk of time in the shopping malls. The trip was amazing; I made many new friends, saw great sights, and had my work shown on national television – a dream come true!

Student-developed CD-ROM makes history fun

By Andrea Slobodian

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Three Balmoral Hall Senior 3 students and two teachers are spending this summer doing homework for the Clarica Scholars Program.

They'll spend Aug. 12-16 developing a CD-ROM at IT3, the University of Waterloo's Centre for Learning and Teaching Through Technology.

Balmoral Senior 3 history teacher Donna Alexander and head of technology Lois Robinson entered Waterloo's competition with a concept for a unit of study.

"Waterloo University wanted a unit of curriculum that's difficult to teach and understand, and make it usable in the classroom with technology," says Robinson.

Theirs is an interactive CD-ROM on aboriginal studies, meant for the Senior 3 history course.

Robinson and Alexander selected a trio of Senior 3 history students, Ashley Makeiff, Lauren Seaman, and Christy Kolt, for the team.

Alexander says the team was picked by the University

of Waterloo because of their strong knowledge of technology. "All of the girls have a good computer background," says Alexander.

At Waterloo, staff will help the team format an interactive CD-ROM, with video and audio clips, links to Web sites, and interactive quizzes. They'll distribute the CD in the Canadian schools.

The idea for the CD came from a class unit on aboriginal studies last fall. Alexander says there isn't a book or Web site with good coverage of aboriginal issues.

"There are so many different views on natives and all the issues," says Kolt.

Their project links all the good books, Web sites and experts.

They've also videotaped guest speakers, such as former National Chief Phil Fontaine and a professor of Native Studies at the University of Manitoba.

Seaman says students usually have only one history textbook, but their CD is better because it provides many different viewpoints.

It will cover aboriginal history, maps, stories, conflict, disease, and the arrival of European settlers. A section on aboriginal rights will cover treaties, land claims, hunting and fishing rights.

Alexander says they plan to have quizzes and other aids teachers can use in class. Robinson says having all the information on one CD frees up time for teachers.

My Experience

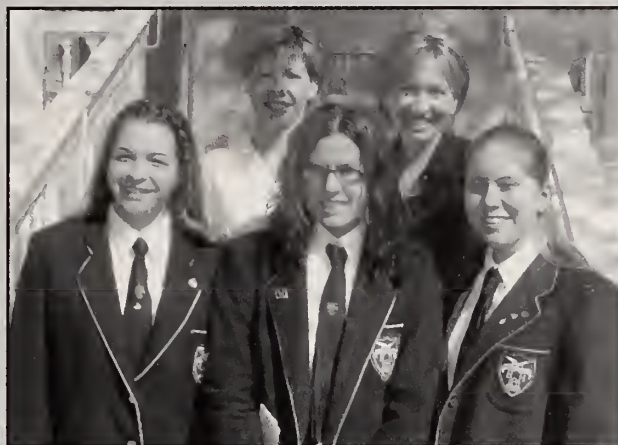
By Christy Kolt '03

On Saturday, August ninth Lauren Seaman, our two teachers, Lois Robinson and Donna Alexander, and myself arrived at the Hamilton airport ready for a week of hard work. We were there to create an interactive CD-ROM to enhance the study of aboriginal rights for the Senior 3 (grade eleven) Canadian History Curriculum.

When we arrived, we met the other groups who were taking part in this experience. They were from places across Canada beginning in Regina and

stretching all the way to Newfoundland! We were given a well-organized schedule, which included many sessions, guest speakers, and of course, time to work on our project. The group was divided in two, where one section would learn about all aspects of the computer programs and designing our CD, while the other learned how to make an appropriate learning device for the intended audience.

For this project we decided to use Ezedia as the program to create our interactive CD-Rom. To my surprise, we managed to complete over one third of our entire project while in Waterloo, which is much further than any of the other groups. The rest of the project will be done at school and hopefully, it will be working and ready to use in a couple of months.



l-r (first row): Christy Kolt, Lauren Seaman and Ashley Makeiff
(second row): Lois Robinson and Donna Alexander

Now that's one Integrated Curriculum!

by Kyla Belton '03

It all started with an over ambitious attempt at a history project. Ms Alexander told my Grade 11 class that we needed to choose a topic for the Young Historians contest. I caught the arts 'bug' about four years ago when my drama teacher at the time, Mrs. Aronovitch, introduced me to the world of theatre. I was given the opportunity to volunteer with many technicians at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival and the Winnipeg Folk Festival. Theatre isn't a small subject for me, and as the weeks of research rolled on and on, that fact became increasingly evident.

As a child of technology, multimedia was the natural medium of choice and it just so happened that there was a contest coming up called EdTechQuest put on by the University of Idaho. ETQ's mission was to get high school students from across the continent competing against

each other in a venue that could show their skills in multimedia and web-based design, while helping other students to learn in an interactive environment. To Ms Robinson (technology department) and Ms Alexander, it sounded like the history projects and the contest would be a happy marriage.

Ms Robinson approached Jane Polak Scowcroft and myself and between us we decided that my project, The History Of Theatre in Canada, better filled the ETQ requirements. After submitting our Canadian History projects, we went to work on my project adding all the elements of multimedia we could get finished before the deadline. We created a project with a Virtual Reality tour, a test to see how much students had learned from the project, an interactive map of Canada, and over forty slides of information.

Three weeks later, the finalists were posted on the Internet and right up there was "Balmoral Hall School, Winnipeg, Canada." Along with being one of the only submissions from Canada, BH was also the school the farthest away. We had submitted the only project made with eZedia, and despite the judges being unfamiliar with the program, we had laid out the project in such a way that it was easy to navigate. Our project was one of the top ten received!

We were overjoyed. Jane and I worked long and hard on our project, and thanks to all of the resources we had and the ability and willingness of the staff, we had help and support every step of the way, and that's what really made the difference.

Donnie McDougall of The Guess Who

by Jane Polak Scowcroft '03

It was one of the biggest opportunities of a lifetime – a 90-minute concert special, and a made-for-television one-hour biography on one of the Guess Who members. And all before we had finished high school!

Kyla Belton and I jumped at the chance Tom Carins, Donnie McDougall's manager, was offering a real life experience in filmmaking. We were soon hard at work, designing floor plans for the concert, calculating our budget, and working on a storyboard.

Our first shooting experience was a Winnipeg concert. Kyla took charge and orchestrated the cameras. We all took our places, ready for the show to begin. Looking back on the footage, it seems that our volunteer BH staff camerawomen, Tina Alto, Lois Robinson and Tracy Smith were in fact Oscar winning cinematographers in a past life!



The second concert, in rural Manitoba, went as flawlessly

as the first. Having crossed the first hurdles, we could now "relax" and frantically started studying for our year-end exams. The second phase of the project was to film Donnie at Private Ear Recording studio and press conferences. Mere days after BH

Closing Ceremonies, we flew out to Saltspring Island, BC for a personal interview at home with Donnie and his family.

Shooting was the most active part of the project, and now we are at school editing the documentary. It was somewhat of a sacrifice to sign away our final high school summer, but it's all been worth it. This experience is one that, thanks to the support of Donnie McDougall and Duck Records, we'll never forget.

Portfolio Conferences in Senior School

The MERIT (Maximizing Enrichment by Recognizing the Interests and Talents of our young women) Portfolio Program is one of the many unique programs BH has developed for its students. Designed to represent the six key areas of our curriculum, the portfolios are tailored to each girl and provide her the opportunity to share her accomplishments, goals and dreams with her parents and the outside world.

Junior, Middle and Senior students are all involved in the creation and development of personal portfolios throughout the school year. These portfolios feature examples of student work and achievements. Students then make a presentation on the contents. Balmoral Hall follows a model that identifies the components of a well-rounded education. This model is divided into six areas of the curriculum. All year, students have been collecting evidence of personal involvement and excellence in the following six areas for their portfolios:

- Academics
- Arts and Technology
- Athletics and Health Education
- Personal Management and Leadership
- Co-Curricular Participation
- Social Responsibility and Global Awareness

The process culminates in April when students complete their current year's portfolios.

This year, Senior 1 and 2 students (Grades 9 & 10) shared their portfolios in a student-led conference with their parents. Senior 3 and 4 students (Grades 11 & 12) went one step further. Each student presented themselves with the assistance of their portfolio to a mock interview panel. The three-member interview panel consisted of parent(s), alumnae, community members and staff. Students felt that the mock interview gave them the opportunity to practice discussing their strengths and skills – something that previously felt awkward for many of them.

Feedback from the participants was extremely positive and we are looking forward to May 2003 when our senior students will once again have an opportunity to participate in the Portfolio Conferences at BH. As news of our program spreads, BH has received requests from other independent schools that wish to implement this concept of portfolio and student-led conferences.

If you are interested in being part of the 2003 interview panel, please contact Joanne Kamins, Principal of Senior School at 784-1686.

My Experience as a Portfolio Conference Panel Member

by Sarah Coates '00

First and foremost, congratulations to all who participated in the Student-Led Portfolio Conferences. This innovation afforded students two incredible opportunities; one being a practical lesson in self promotion; so often, we feel as though to promote ourselves, our accomplishments and our strengths is egotistical, self-serving and well, tacky. But, to be able to point out to prospective employers or universities where your strengths lie and, subsequently, to identify your greatest weaknesses and how you plan to overcome them, is a valuable practice skill that shows depth of thinking and scope of character. Second, this was a precious opportunity for students to share with their parents, and remind themselves of, their achievements and improvements in various academic and extracurricular pursuits.

For three reasons, I would encourage all alumnae to consider participation, in this project. First of all, your time and talent would serve as a gift in kind to the school. For some of us, financial contributions are a challenge however, we do have

specific talents and can make time to share them and mutually benefit. Second, you would be part of a process in evolution, you can help shape this process that prepares students for situations they will face in the immediate future. And third, you have the opportunity to reflect upon your own past experience and use it as an opportunity to see from the other point of view in the interview process.

With the right to say we graduated from BH comes the responsibility to continue to support it. True, there are others who could serve on the panel who could ask questions and gauge the response – but our "alumnae" title is a precious and unique role... we know where the school has been, we've sat in those chairs ourselves, and to give advice from the outside world, having once been on the inside, would be invaluable for the growth and improvement of the students.

Students Raise Over \$23,000 for Breast Cancer Research



Standing proudly at The Forks, student organizers display their banner.

by Tina Alto, Director of Development/Marketing

As we reported in the fall 2000 issue of *The Portal*, Balmoral Hall opened up its arms and its heart and welcomed the brave and dedicated members of Chemo Savvy into the BH Family. This courageous group of breast cancer survivors were in need of a facility and coach to prepare them for the Dragon Boat racing season.

Now heading into our third season, Mrs. Lisa Calsbeck, Physical Education teacher, volunteers her Wednesday evenings and the School opens the Richardson Hall

Athletic Centre to a great group of role models. In return, the members of Chemo Savvy have shared their personal stories with our students, building awareness and educating our young women about this disease. They have reinforced the value of preventative measures, such as regular breast self-exams and have made annual donations to BH for equipment in our weight-training centre.

Building on this partnership, BH joined CancerCare Manitoba Foundation and the Guardian Angel Breast Cancer Benefit Committee to plan our first **Girls for the Cure Walk/Run in the fall of 2001.**

It was a cold, rainy day on October 4, 2001 when BH girls from Grades 1 to 12 embarked on this walk/run in support of breast cancer. Although it was extremely cold running on the river walk, it did not



stop over 500 keen students from achieving their goal. In the end, \$23,061 was raised for breast cancer research.

Our goal was to heighten awareness among young people and raise funds in support of the Guardian Angel's commitment to breast cancer research. These funds stay exclusively in Manitoba to aid research, treatment programs and breast cancer patient services.

At the time of printing, our second annual Girls for the Cure Walk/Run will have taken place on October 10, 2002. Girls from Grades 1 to 12 will have participated once again in a walk/run along the historic Assiniboine River to the Forks where they enjoyed fun filled activities, refuelled with refreshments and continued their walk back to BH. Family and friends were invited to join in our journey. Watch for this year's photos and our grand total in your next issue of *The Portal*!

Along the route, Senior School girls team up with Junior School to make the trek to The Forks, a long distance for little legs!

Students at BH Train for Dragon Boat Race

by Julia Cloutier '03



This year, 25 Balmoral Hall girls participated in the 1st annual high school Dragon Boat races. We practiced twice a week at 6:30 in the morning to prepare for the 500 meter race. Even before we hit the water, we were required to do many hours of dry land training including aerobics,

simulated paddling, and strength training. We also had a lot of fun with dyna-bands. All of these activities helped us finish the long race, especially the strenuous last meters!

We were taught first hand by the ladies of the Chemo Savvy Dragon Boat Team. As we found out, canoeing and Dragon Boat paddling is not the same thing. The stroke required in Dragon Boat racing needs you to use your whole body. We could definitely tell the morning after a

practice! The races were held on June 1st at the Manitoba Canoe and Kayak Club. There were approximately 13 teams involved, all of which were co-ed, except for ours. In an exhibition race, we beat the Chemo Savvy Team!

I know that all of the girls will agree with me when I say that during our last race we were running on pure adrenaline. Overall it was a fantastic experience, one which we all hope to participate in again this coming year.





by Amy Dhillon '03

Some people hear the word Duke of Ed, and automatically think, "boring" or even "nerdy." The truth, it's not either of these. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a prestigious award presented to young Canadians for their volunteer work, physical fitness, skills, and ability to stretch their minds, and become better individuals by challenging themselves in ways they never thought possible. I joined the Duke of Ed program for the award, but stayed with it because it taught me about myself.

In late June, 10 Senior 2 and 3 girls went on a hiking expedition to satisfy a requirement for their silver level award. The group included Dani Theberge, Sarah Murdoch, Paige Lewis, Maria Shultz, Katie Reynolds, Megan McFadden, Kristine Wilson, Nerissa Heron, Jennifer Dyck-Sprout, Amy Dhillon and teachers, Ms Welch and Mrs. Calsbeck.

Our chosen hiking path was the Mantario trail, situated on the border between Manitoba and Ontario. This three day hike was not only hard on the body, but on the mind as well. Within the first ten minutes of the hike, we had taken the wrong route, and were lost. Five hours. That's how long we were told it would take to get to our camp on Day One. Well, at that time, we were only a third of the way there. There were fallen trees everywhere, marshes in which I soaked my feet countless times, and every time you finished climbing one rock or mountain, there was another one!



Some people hear the word Duke of Ed, and automatically think, "boring" or even "nerdy." The truth, it's not either of these...



Eventually, we reached a fork in the trail that led to where we were supposed to go, Caribou East. However, after nearly six hours of hiking, no one had the energy to walk another seven kilometers to our originally planned site, so we went to Caribou West. It was probably the best thing we did that day – we reached our site.

The next day, we woke up two hours later than originally planned, and hiked to Caribou East and back. That took five hours, which is what we were hoping for. The trail was a lot easier than the first day because it was even. On the final day, we hiked back to where we started.

Let me tell you this about hiking, you would think that with all the trees and shade, it would be cool. WRONG!! It was hot and sticky and very marshy because it had rained for a few days. But the view... that was something else. I felt like Little Red Riding Hood in the woods. It was a postcard view for three days.

The entire hike was about testing one's own ability to work with their mind. To never let your brain tell you that you cannot do it and fall victim to the attitude – "I won't make it." If it weren't for the Duke of Edinburgh's requirement, I would not have gone on a hike and put my body through perhaps one of the hardest things it has ever had to do. But now, I know what I can handle.

The Duke of Ed is a challenge to everyone to go out and experience the world in a different way. To face a challenge and succeed. Boring? I think not.



Head Girl Marisa Louridas '02 & Michelle Clarke '94 after Closing Exercises

Michelle Clarke '94...

...returned to BH this spring as the keynote speaker for Closing Exercises. She herself was Head Girl after being a Lifer at the School. Michelle graduated from Princeton University in 1998 with an Aerospace Engineering degree and was then awarded her M.D. from Georgetown University Medical School in 2002. She is currently a Neurosurgery resident at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, New York.

"Members of the Balmoral Hall family and especially the Class of 2002, I am honoured to return to Westminster to congratulate you, the centennial class of graduates. To say that I am enjoying my return is an understatement. When I sat in your seat, I remember feeling nervous to leave the comfort of the green and gold behind, but I was ready to tackle the garish orange and black of Princeton, and the more fashionable blue and grey of Georgetown. You too will find, as you gather wisdom and knowledge, the legacy of Balmoral Hall leaves you prepared to dream in vivid color.

Balmoral Hall has provided you with the context of life. Each subject that you have studied has given you a building block from which the foundation of your future can be built. Science and Math provide the rule of logic. Literature provides the ability to critically analyze information. History and Geography supply the background in which new facts can be assimilated. Language has given you exposure to new cultures. Sports have demonstrated the value of teamwork and the joy of healthy living. You have earned these tools and it is your responsibility to use them to creatively achieve your vision.

"Believe that you will succeed. Believe it firmly, and you will then do what is necessary to bring success about."

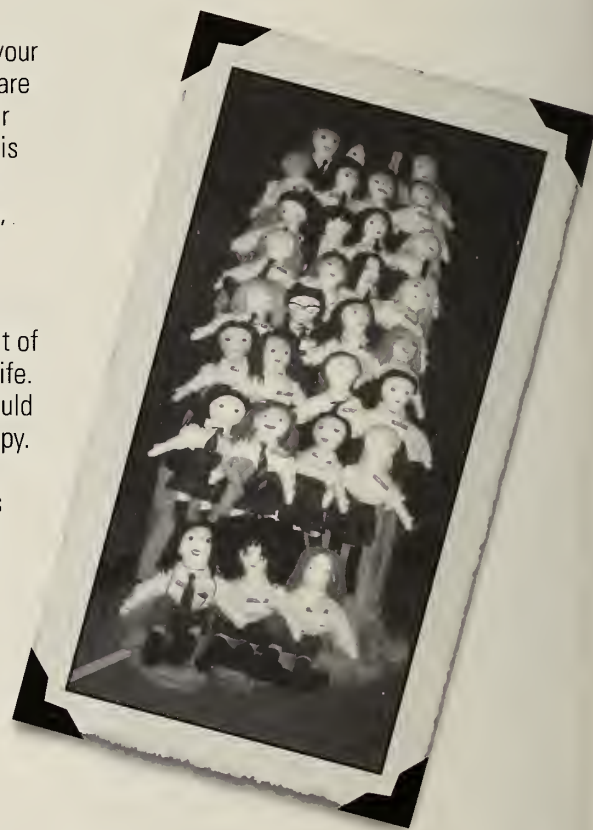
Dale Carnegie

If you try your best and fall short of your goals, laugh. It only proves that you are human. To fall to a worthy competitor having put forth a stupendous effort is more satisfying than to win against a lesser opponent. As Browning said, "what I aspired to be, and was not, comforts me."

Most importantly, in your wild pursuit of success, slow down and enjoy your life. As you dream many dreams, you should have many things that make you happy. Read a book, sip tea with a friend, play a sport, paint. Make your life as colourful and varied as your dreams.

Cultivate your friendships. Be as loyal to your companions as you are to your dreams. Success is more enjoyable when it is shared with others, the weight of failure easily carried by close friends. Care for your family. Your parents and grandparents set the stage for your life, ensure that the spotlight shines on them as well.

Your thoughts, goals and dreams are unique. They form the basis of your motivation. How you build your thoughts, pursue your goals and how you relate to others while pursuing your dreams is what provides the basis of you. So I implore you, Think Big, set goals beyond your ability, and always dream in vivid colour."



Our Lifers

Some thoughts from Valedictorian Marisa Louridas '02

"To my fellow students, the reason we love BH so much is because of its incredible spirit. Because to state it literally, BH is just a building, but the students inside that building make the school come alive. With you we have enjoyed the ski trip, the first Girls Run for the Cure, Dragon Boat racing, and the Centennial Musical. It makes me very proud to be able to stand here and say with confidence that each one of us is at the least acquainted with each one of you, which is very rare for most schools.

We are all part of the BH Family and that is one tie that will keep strong forever. Many of you have become our best friends and we are going to miss you like crazy next year. Remember, keep in touch; all we need to do is click on www.balmoralhall.com and we will be all right there in the alumnae directory, waiting for your mail!



Head of School Message to the Graduates

"Today is a really exciting day in the history of Rupertsland, Riverbend, Havergal, and Balmoral Hall School. We are celebrating the graduation of our 100th class. You are a very special group of graduates; our hundredth group of young ladies to achieve academic excellence.

This has been a special year with many celebrations at the school but much turmoil in the world. As you go forward along your paths, it will be important for you all to contribute towards making our world a peaceful place to live for all. As Marie Curie the Nobel Prize winning Physical Chemist once said, "You cannot hope to build a better world without improving individuals, we must all work for our own improvement, and at the same time share a general responsibility for all humanity." Barbara Walters said, "To excel is to reach your own highest dream, But you must help others, where and when you can, to reach theirs. Personal gain is empty if you do not feel you have positively touched another's life. We hope your years at Balmoral Hall have been positive ones and that we, the staff have touched your lives. Use this experience to build on in the future."



The Class of 2002 leaves their mark

As a graduating class, we are lucky to have 31 other sisters who are always there ready to share a laugh, cry, or simply chat! At the Alumnae Reunion we witnessed past BH'ers come together and share their lives with one another. Believe it or not, soon we will be in their position. So remember... wherever you choose to pursue your career, BH will always be our home base!"



The Doll Assembly 2002

Congratulations



Amanda
Aldous



Judith
Aronovitch



Amber
Bewza



Sarah
Briggs



Clara
Chu



Olivia
Danylchuk



Mhelanni
Gorre



Marcie
Hawrawnuk



Melanie
Hnatyshyn



Lyndia
Ho



Joyce
Hong



Anna
Kozlova



Keryn
Kruger



Elisabeth
Leitgeb



Crystal
Li



Ashley
Long



Marisa
Louridas



Danielle
Matte



Erin
Mitchell



Hilary
Moir



Caroline
Monnin



Kana
Nagata



Carissa
Nikkel



Jennifer
Reimer



Lesley
Robertson



Aliza
Sharfe



Chanpreet
Singh



Natalie
Smith



Valerie
Vanbiervliet



Shirley
Yeung



Ashley
Zajac

Thank you for the Memories!

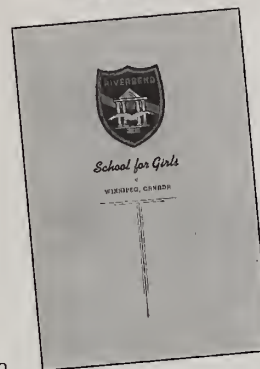
by Lyn Stephen '57, Archivist

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all those who loaned and donated memorabilia prior and during *The Centennial Reunion*. You have continued a tradition that has resulted in the growth of our archives to the extensive collection it is today.

Ours is a collection that is in use and appreciated throughout the year, every year. Archival material is on display in the atrium and in the archives room, readily available to alumnae, students, staff and visitors to the School. Researchers find a wealth of historical records, whether they are seeking data for a family history, tracing the origins of school traditions, or searching for just the right picture for a school publication.

The School is indebted to its alumnae for their generous contributions to this valuable resource. Our most recent thanks to:

- Marjorie (Chisholm) Johnston RLS '38
- Joan Evelyn (Macav) Miners RLS '39
- Maude Walter RLS '39
- Alice (Veals) Hurd RLS '39
- Ethna (Mitten) Alsip RIV '49
- Margaret Jamieson RIV '44
- Kathleen Richardson RIV '44
- Elizabeth (Gemmell) Yarnell RLS '45
- Jennifer McQueen RLS '48
- Marianne (Burwood) Hollamby RLS '48
- Cara Joy Hughes RIV '49
- Nancy (Smith) Lynch RLS '50
- Jocelyn (Carey) Willis RLS '51
- Joan (Malaher) Williams '53
- Donna (Lowery) Miller '57
- Cheryl (Yates) Jones '60
- Linda (Miller) Martin '62
- Signy Hansen '62
- Heather (Brodie) Melidones '65
- Edith Swan – memorabilia which belonged to her aunt, the late Mildred Turner, a Kindergarten teacher in the 1960s.
- Patricia (Johnston) Simmie '66 – kindness of her mother, Marjorie (Chisholm) Johnston RLS '38
- Eva Newman '66
- Mary Cain '67
- Karen (Richardson) Somers '74
- Deborah Metcalfe '76
- Sandra (Pearson) Urwin '90 – pictures which belonged to her mother, the late Muriel (Edmonds) Pearson '54



Welcoming the New Prefect

Amanda Aldous '02 (right) welcomes the new Alumnae Prefect Laura Lemon '03 to her role.



Laura Lemon is the newly-elected Alumnae Prefect for the 2002–03 school year. She is a Lifer at the school and has many family members who have been students at Balmoral Hall. In her Grade 12 year she will be very busy with her duties as a Prefect, three Advanced Placement courses and preparing for university.

Laura's job as Alumnae Prefect will include helping to organize events with alumnae and the Grade 12 students, finding a keynote speaker for Closing Exercises and coordinating the class time capsule. Laura is very excited about her position and is looking forward to working with the Alumnae Office in her graduating year.

White Dress Photos on Display

The School has mounted a permanent exhibition of photos representing every graduating class in the atrium. We need your help to find the remaining 21 class photos to complete the display!

Please search your photo albums, attics and old boxes for the following:

Havergal

Missing all years from 1902–16 except 1909

Rupert's Land

Missing 1917–23, 28, 29, 32, 33

Riverbend

Missing 1929, 30, 31, 32, 33, 37, 40

Balmoral Hall School

Missing 1952, 1977 & 1978

A reproduction will be made and the original will be returned to you. For further information, please contact the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603 or email alumnae@balmoralhall.com

Over \$1.5 Million Raised for the School

The Carolyn Sifton Foundation made their 1st outright cash gift of \$500,000 on October 1, 2001 and directed it towards the debt reduction fund. They issued a further Matching Challenge for Balmoral Hall to raise \$500,000 by June 30, 2002 which they would match dollar-for-dollar!

As of June 30, 2002, donations (cash & pledges) to the Debt Reduction Fund totaled over \$600,000. Thank you to staff, parents (both past and current), alumnae, grandparents and friends who responded so positively to this challenge. Together with the Carolyn Sifton Foundation, we have raised over 1.5 million dollars towards the

reduction of Balmoral Hall's outstanding mortgages resulting in the reallocation of much-needed resources towards student programs.

A special thank you goes to David and Ruth Asper, who upon learning of the Carolyn Sifton Foundation matching opportunity led the way with their Leadership pledge. They also provided further fundraising support when they opened their home, along with Susan & Leonard Asper and Graeme Sifton, to co-host the Legacy of Leadership Progressive Dinner in the fall of 2001.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the following donors who committed major gifts towards the Debt Reduction Initiative:

- David & Ruth Asper – Daremax Foundation
- Costas Ataliotis
- Ken Bicknell
- Sheldon Blank – Gateway Industries
- Juraj Bohna
- David Borger – REGROB Investments
- Paul Jacuzzi – Waterite Technologies
- Edward Kennedy
- Blain King – King Optical Group
- Peter Lemon & Linda Nugent
- Mackie Love
- Craig McIntosh
- James Morden
- Chrys Pappas & Kaye Dunlop
- Lorraine & Scott Penman
- Gordon & Susan Pollard
- Richardson Foundation
- Mitch & Wanda Zajac
- Darcy & Brenda Zaporzan
- One Anonymous Donor

A Legacy of Leadership is celebrated!

On Saturday, October 13, 2001 past members of the Board of Governors, past and present Presidents of the Parent and Alumnae Associations and members of the Heritage Committee joined the Board of Governors of Balmoral Hall School to celebrate a Legacy of Leadership. Celebrating our 100th year as a leading girls school in Canada, it seemed timely that we should gather together the many leaders who have guided BH. Throughout the years, they have given so generously of their time, expertise and financial resources to see Balmoral Hall School fulfill its mission: To Educate, Encourage, and Empower girls and young women to achieve their personal best.

This progressive evening began with cocktails at the home of Susan and Leonard Asper, followed by a sumptuous dinner hosted by Graeme Sifton and topped off with delectable desserts at the home of Ruth and David Asper. Celebrants were treated to an enchanted evening that was both a feast for the palette and for the eye.



Graeme Sifton co-host



l-r: Ossama Abouzeid, Ted Baron, Bill Watchorn, Chrys Pappas



Susan Asper & Ruth Asper, co-hosts

l-r: Alumnae Dime Riley, Carolyn Graham, Katheen Richardson



Thanks to our hosts' generosity, the evening was not only unique and fun, it also raised \$14,400 towards the debt reduction initiative. With the Carolyn Sifton Foundation matching grant, this wonderful evening contributed a total of \$28,000 towards fundraising efforts.

The Parent Association Fundraising Dinner

The Parent Association plays a key role in advancing the quality education students receive at BH. Through their hard work and numerous fundraising and "friend raising" projects, they have helped establish an enduring and nurturing school community.



When the Carolyn Sifton Foundation Matching Challenge was first announced, it was the Parent Association who rose to meet this great opportunity. They pledged the proceeds from their 2001 golf tournament as well as both the 2001 and 2002 Dinner, Dance and Auction events. Given the incredible support BH families have shown over the years to these popular events, it came as no surprise that they surpassed their revenue targets and contributed a combined total of \$100,000, which when matched, amounts to a \$200,000 payment to the debt reduction initiative!

The Board of Governors extends their sincere appreciation to the many volunteers of the Parent Association for their tremendous efforts and school spirit.



Yes She Can... And She Did...



On Friday, May 24, 2002, Balmoral Hall School held the first **Yes She Can Award Dinner** in honour of **Maureen Kempston Darkes**, President of General Motors Latin America, Africa and Mid East divisions. The award celebrates a woman's achievement within the global community. This year's honouree was significant. Not only had she established her career in Canada as GM's Canadian President (an unprecedented move) and now holds the highest ranking position for a female within the organization worldwide, she also has connections to BH. Her mother-in-law attended Riverbend School, one of BH's founding schools.

After an unfortunate change of dates due to our honourees promotion and subsequent move from Canada to the U.S., this unique event still attracted the attention of over 600 people from Winnipeg's corporate community as well as Balmoral Hall's Senior 3 and 4 Prefects. Guests enjoyed an evening of delicious food, fine wine and a motivating presentation by Ms Kempston Darkes. The event raised over \$40,000 dollars towards the Matching Debt Reduction initiative. We look forward to our next award dinner, tentatively scheduled for January 2004.

Demand for Scholarships and Bursaries High, Available Funding Too Low!

There is an urgency to develop a significant scholarship and bursary Endowment Fund. Presently, Balmoral Hall School lags behind many Canadian independent schools in endowment funds. (Toronto's Havergal College recently reported their endowment at \$9.6 million with a campaign goal to reach \$40 million in 10 years.)

A strong endowment fund is critical to Balmoral Hall's future. A major priority of the Centennial Endowment Fund established in 2001, is to support scholarships and bursaries. With a strong financial aid program we can invite into our family students who have the ability and qualities sought in Balmoral Hall candidates, but for whom tuition fees make a BH education seem out of the question.

The January 2002 Benchmark Report for CAIS (Canadian Association of Independent Schools) for the 2000/2001 Academic Year, places Balmoral Hall well below many of our peer schools. These schools benefit greatly from healthy endowment funds. They receive financial support annually from their endowment funds, enabling them to keep tuition fees affordable, to attract the best faculty and to provide an enriched educational experience.

Nearly 21% of BH students are currently receiving financial support (a much higher percent than the national median of 12%). Demand for more financial support from prospective students is on the rise. The School must attract significant investment to its Centennial Endowment Fund if it is to positively respond to the many deserving girls and young women who are in need of financial aid.

On October 30, 2001, Past Board Chair, Mr. Ossama AbouZeid endowed a scholarship

fund for senior students excelling in Math and Science.

A proud supporter of BH, Mr.

AbouZeid joined the Alumnae Reunion Dinner on May 3, 2002 and, graciously shared his thoughts on the importance and urgency for endowment growth at BH. He encouraged all present to consider the tremendous opportunities their early education afforded them initially as students and later as the positive role models they became in their communities. He stressed the important role a BH all-girls education could play in the lives of so many talented and eager students waiting for their turn to attend this great school.

In 2001, the Board of Governors entrusted the management of the Centennial Endowment Fund to The Winnipeg Foundation. There are many means by which you can contribute to this fund, be it through a personal, family or class gift. There are many vehicles you can use, be it a cash gift or planned gift, like a bequest.

You have the means to make a difference in a child's education. If you would like to discuss how to contribute to the endowment fund (be it today or in the future), please contact BH Development Director, Tina Alto at (204) 784-1614.



More ways to give – more great projects where you can make a difference. 2003 – 2004 Annual Giving Campaign gears up – brochure enclosed.

Receive a U.S. Tax Receipt

Supporters in the United States can make a donation to BH and receive a U.S. tax receipt. Address your donation cheque to: **FRISBE (Friends of Independent Schools & Better Education)** and mail to: **811 Karl Johan Avenue N., Tacoma, Washington 98406-1047.** Please enclose the Annual Giving form and note on your cheque that you wish to direct the donation to Balmoral Hall School. FRISBE will then issue you a U.S. tax receipt and we will be notified of your gift.

Matching Gifts

Would you like to see your gift do twice as much for Balmoral Hall? If you are a current employee, retired, or the spouse/widow, your company might be willing to match your gift to BH. Check with your human resources department to find out if they will match your gift and ask your company to give you an application form. Fill in the form and enclose it with your gift.

All Charities Campaign

The All Charities Campaign is the official fundraising campaign for employees, past and present of the Province of Manitoba and other affiliated employee groups. Donors can make a cash donation or a payroll deduction and can name one or more of the hundreds of agencies (of which BH is listed) on their pledge card.

The United Way

Similar to the All Charities Campaign, supporters of Balmoral Hall can ask that their donation to the United Way be directed to Balmoral Hall School. Simply indicate on your gift card that you would like a portion, or all of your donation to be directed to Balmoral Hall School. This is a great way to continue to participate in the United Way's annual drive and support your school.



First Online Donation!

Deborah Morrison '81 was living in Toronto when she made her online donation to the 2001–02 Annual Giving campaign. At the time, she was the Director of Operations for a new foundation called Historica, who promote Canadian history through media and education programmes.

After graduating from BH, Deborah studied Political Science at the University of Carleton in Ottawa. She then worked both provincially and federally as a political aide which led her to work for a charitable organization in Montreal, promoting Canadian history.

She has recently moved back to Winnipeg with her 3 year-old daughter Catherine to assume the role of President of Canada's National History Society.

Deborah Morrison '81 made the first online donation to BH in February 2002.

The society publishes a magazine called *The Beaver*, and produces a series of awards to contribute to history education in Canada.

When asked if she still kept in touch with BH classmates, she replied, "Going online to make my contribution also encouraged me to surf a bit in the alumnae section of the website and try to re-establish contact via email. But the real tipping point was *The Centennial Reunion* (which I couldn't attend) – after that weekend I received emails from several colleagues. In some cases it



seems like no time has passed at all – I do think there is something magical about BH that way..."

http://www.balmoralhall.com/on-line_giving.htm

Where did you hear about the BH online giving site?

In The Portal of course! Seriously, I had read about the website, the online directory and had already had the best of intentions of sending a contribution for the campaign a long time prior to that.

What encouraged you to try it out?

Well, I figured it might be another century for BH if they had to wait for me to get it together to actually find my cheque book, write the cheque, find an envelope and stamp, and post it in a mailbox! I was grateful for a simplified option.

How long did it take to fill out the form?

Faster than writing your name and bid down on a silent auction item at the Spring Dinner/Dance!

Was there enough information about directing your donation to a specific fund?

I think that was one of the most sensitive parts of the online form. Clearly BH recognizes and respects that donors might have individual preferences for how their contributions are applied.

Were you concerned about giving financial information over the Internet?

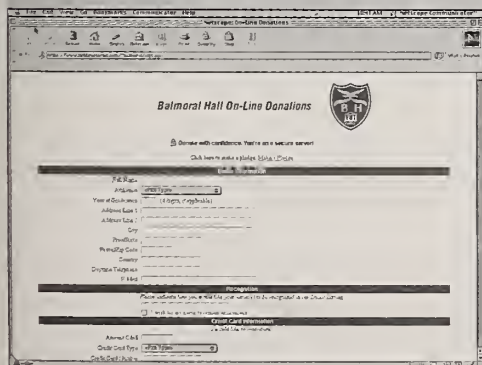
I live an online existence pretty much these days, so no. I do my banking on-line, make most of my travel bookings for business and leisure, make retail purchases, I even pay my taxes on-line.

Have you made other online donations or purchases?

In addition to those mentioned above, I feel I should point out a great website for charitable contributions – www.charity.ca. They provide a great service to a number of Canadian charities to accept online contributions in a secure environment, in many cases for organizations that don't have the capacity to offer online services themselves. I have given to a number of organizations through their site.

Would you donate again online to BH?

Most certainly! However, the chances of making a contribution in person are significantly higher now that I am moving back to Winnipeg.



Donating online is easy, fast and convenient. At any time of the day, you can now make a secure credit card donation to Balmoral Hall – no paperwork or stamps needed! To find the donation web form, simply click on "Giving to BH" on the homepage of www.balmoralhall.com

A Family Remembers

by Joan (Sellers) Audette '64

Peg (Aikins) Sellers' involvement with Balmoral Hall began long before there was a BH. Both her family home (the Red House) and her grandfather's, Sir J.A.M. Aikins, home (the White House) made up the buildings and surrounding property that were to become Riverbend School in September 1929.

*Peg (Aikins) Sellers &
Frances "Dime" (Aikins) Riley
in front of Aikins House*

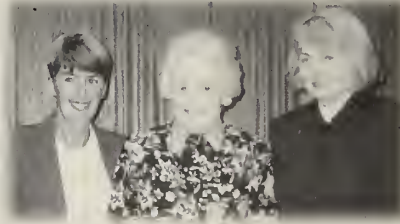
I have often wondered if, when she moved from the property as a teen, Peg had any clue the role those houses and the property would have in her future... or if the property and structures could imagine the role she would play in theirs.

My sister, Anne, and I both attended BH from start to finish. Mum spent almost as much time there as we did. Mum had the unique ability to not only dream of projects but to infect others with her enthusiasm for them. If someone other than Mum wanted to spearhead one of her ideas for a major fundraiser – well that was fine with her! The Good Ship Balmoral, The Christmas Village, The Musical Moment all benefited by her creativity. The girls of Balmoral Hall did not escape her attentions: was there anyone of us graduates from the late fifties to the early sixties who was not taught how to walk by Mother? Walking with a book on your head was NOT sufficient, sitting down and standing back up with it in place was also expected!

*Guide Leader: Peg Sellers
1955 or 1956*

In later years, her involvement was conducted with less hands-on activity but none-the-less behind the scenes personal and financial commitment. She was determined to do what she could to ensure that Balmoral Hall would continue to provide the quality education she believed was vital for a young woman, be it in the fifties or the new millennium.

One of the projects nearest to her heart was the establishment of the Junior Library. In 1955, the senior school moved to the "new" building, an empty classroom was left piled high with children's books both from the library and from the previously widely-scattered Junior School classrooms. With the help of the curmudgeonly Alec, Lorraine Moody and Mum spent the year erecting shelves, sorting, dusting, and cataloguing the books that became the first Junior Library. Not content to leave it there, the two of them put together "Stepping Stones," a reading list that included not only titles and authors but also identified which edition they felt would be most beneficial to children.



*Anne (Sellers)
Harvey '62 (Daughter)
Peg (Aikins) Sellers
Erin Sellers
(Daughter in-law)*

My mother loved the English language and the written word. She read to my sister Anne and I long after we were able to read to ourselves. Even in high school, at least one of the novels from the infamous summer reading list would become a read-a-loud.

Of all the projects Mum undertook, I believe the Junior Library was perhaps the closest to her heart. It is so befitting her memory that I am thrilled to be able to join my sister, Anne Harvey and sister-in-law, Erin Sellers **in the construction of a new Junior School Library – our tribute to her dedication to Balmoral Hall School.**





Young People Making a Difference

by Amy Wilton '03 & Amy Dhillon '03, Youth in Philanthropy Co-Chairs

The Youth in Philanthropy program, an initiative of The Winnipeg Foundation, was designed to introduce high school students to philanthropy and the world of community development. Students formed Youth Advisory Committees at their school to tackle the project. Each committee was allocated \$5,000 which they could use to make grants to the charitable organizations of their choice.

Students explored their individual beliefs and community needs to determine where and how the money should be spent. After reaching a consensus, they went out into the community to research charitable organizations. After each site visit, findings and recommendations were reported back to their youth committee. Then came the difficult task of deciding which organizations received grants.

Students involved in the Youth in Philanthropy Program in 2001-02

- Marta Alphonso
- Kyla Belton
- Laura Blackwood
- Kyla Caners
- Amy Dhillon
- Jennifer Dyck-Sprout
- Carmen Hui
- Diana King
- Maria Schultz
- Nathania Van Kuik Fast
- Kristine Wilson
- Amy Wilton
- Chloe Wolstencroft
- Meena Bhullar
- Kristi-Marie Guzda
- Baillie Klein
- Lisa Koss
- Sarah Murdoch
- Jane Polak Scowcroft

This year, the BH Youth Advisory Committee grew considerably, thus making the decision-making process more complicated than it had been the previous year. The main values of the group fell within the area of Poverty/Inner City.

Seven grants ranging from \$600 to \$900 were allocated to Operation Go Home, Winnipeg Boys and Girls Club, West Broadway Community Ministry, Andrews Street Family Centre, Art City, Osborne House and Wolseley Family Place. The grants helped fund outreach programs as well as items like a freezer, camping equipment and art supplies.

This year our Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) group went above and beyond the requirements to involve the School in giving back to the community. One way of accomplishing this was organizing a bake sale for the Children's Hospital. The bake sale was very successful as it raised just over \$230 for the hospital. The YIP group also organized a book, clothing, and utensils drive for Andrew Street Centre and West Broadway Community Ministry.

Through our research of the various charities, we discovered our school was a part of an alliance of organizations located in the area surrounding our school that are dedicated to improving the community around them. This was a learning and growing year for our YIP group and we hope to expand further into the school and community in the following years. We would like to thank the students, staff, and parents that supported our group this year.

You Too Can Leave Your Mark on Balmoral Hall!

Members of the BH Family have endowed 126 seats in the Sifton Family Theatre. There are still some seats left! For information on how to get a seat of your own, please call Tina Alto in the Development Office at (204) 784-1614.



Speakers in the Classroom

In April 2002, BH students were privileged to have **Wendy Hayes, GM of Apple Canada**, drop by the School. She spoke about the opportunities for careers in information technology in Canada and emphasized the market's need to fill 5 million technology jobs worldwide in the next 3–4 years. She focused on the importance of math and science and how national math testing is showing that girls are stronger in problem solving skills, a necessary skill for many career choices. Wendy also gave an inspiring look at what skills women bring to the workforce and barriers that many women face when looking at opportunities in their careers. Through her own experiences, she brought to the group some lessons learned such as the need for flexibility, self-assessment, mentorship and balance in life.

Ken Zorniak is the **Vice-President and Producer of Frantic Films** a local visual effects and live-action production shop whose clients include Warner Bros., Paramount and History Television. During the past two years the Multimedia students have had the opportunity to hear Ken's first hand account of his experiences. Frantic Films was responsible for creating the visual effects in the infamous bank scene from the movie *Swordfish*. Not only do the students learn about the skills needed to pursue this type of career, but they also hear Ken talk about the ability of such a talented company to remain and be successful in Winnipeg.

Michael Yaremchuk was a wonderful resource on **sound and lighting**. His expertise and knowledge were a great help to the students working on the **Donnie McDougall (member of the Guess Who) documentary**. As this particular project advanced, Michael was brought in to assist in the pre-production stage for the sound and lighting requirements for the live concerts that were filmed. We look forward to having Michael back in the classroom again.

While **Darlene (Andison) Burke '88** attended *The Centennial Reunion* in May, she squeezed in a visit to the school and the Grade 8 students were given the opportunity to learn about her career experiences in **technology related careers**. Darlene talked about the challenges facing women in IT careers and also about her successes while working for one of the largest online trading companies. It was great to have a BH graduate return and share her knowledge with our students.

Speakers in the Classroom

Susan Millican, the **International Development and Program Consultant to the U.S. broadcaster Oxygen** and **CEO of the National Screen Institute** took time out of her busy schedule to talk to both the Career Education and Technology classes. Her experience as a teacher of Television Production and Journalism and work as a producer was insightful and inspiring for our students. Again it was great to see someone so very talented pursue these amazing opportunities and be able to remain in Winnipeg. Susan is a wonderful role model for our young women.

Other speakers this year have included:

Donna Miller (parent)
– on constitutional reform

Sister Mary Coswin
– on traditional roles for women

Erin Romeo
– on women in politics

Dana Anderson
– on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Brenlee Carrington Trepel
– on equity and harassment issues

Elijah Harper
– on Aboriginal rights

Deborah Schnitzer
– on gender roles and women in literature



Alumnae Association Active Again!

In early 2002, a survey was emailed to over 400 alumnae who had registered on the Email Directory to gather feedback on what they felt the role of the Alumnae Association should be. Over 80 alumnae participated – thank you for the great response!

This information was then used at a special meeting held during *Centennial Reunion* in May 2002. Over 40 alumnae celebrating the school's 100th birthday spent time discussing how the Alumnae Association could best serve its members and the School.

Three strategic planning sessions were then held in May and June with a small group of committed alumnae. Heather Erhard of Erhard Associates facilitated these sessions. The goal was to develop a Strategic Plan and use this plan to recruit a new Alumnae Board. From those sessions, new Mission & Vision statements were developed:

New Mission

The Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association promotes communication among its former students and staff, supports the students of today and tomorrow, and honours and upholds the School's traditions.

New Vision

The Balmoral Hall Alumnae Association strives to enhance the powerful network amongst alumnae and the school community, uphold tradition, and provide a solid endowment fund to enable qualifying students to benefit from the Balmoral Hall education experience.

One of the objectives of the strategic plan is to build a strong Alumnae Board representing different age groups and geographic areas before the end of the year. With this goal in mind, a Special Meeting of the Alumnae Association will be held in November to elect our new Alumnae President and Executive Committee.

If you would like information on how to get involved with the Alumnae Association, please contact the **Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603** or **alumnae@balmoralhall.com**. We welcome involvement from outside of Winnipeg and would love to hear your suggestions for keeping us connected with each other and with BH.

New Staff in the Alumnae Office

Courtney Moir attended BH from Grades 7–12 and graduated in 1998. She has completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts Honours degree, specializing in photography. Going into her 4th year of university she received The School of Art Award to be put towards projects devoted to creative work and or creative research in the visual arts. She has photographed for the Balmoral Hall and SJR Parent Association Dinner/Dance evening the last few years,

as well as the BH grad group photo on the graduation evening. In addition to these larger jobs, word of mouth has increased the number of other jobs, such as various events for the Asper School of Business, a wedding, a wake boarding competition at Lake Shirley called Wake Jam, as well as various private functions. She looks forward to working in the alumnae Office for the year.



Don't miss the Special Meeting

This is a key time to get involved if you would like to influence change and bring new ideas to the **Alumnae Association!**

Please join us on Monday, November 4, 2002 at 7 p.m. in Aikins House to elect your new Alumnae Board!

R.S.V.P. attendance only to the
Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603
or **alumnae@balmoralhall.com**

If you are interested in a board position, please contact the Alumnae Office so that we may forward your name to the Nominating Committee.

Alumnae Association Key Focus Areas

Leadership

To have vital leadership within the alumnae membership, committed to the stated goals of the association.

Marketing / Communication

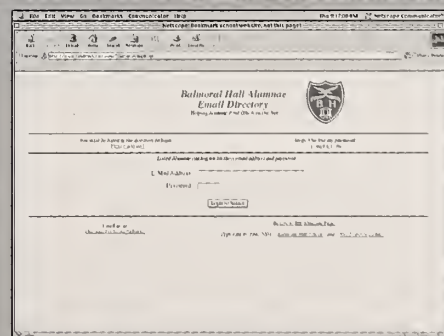
To build the awareness and support of the Alumnae Association's Mission, Vision and Goals.

Fundraising / Financial

To have a strong base of endowed funds that enrich the Balmoral Hall experience for all students.

Activities

To have activities and events relevant to each generation and geographic area, supportive of the Mission and Vision.



Visit the alumnae page at
www.balmoralhall.com



Susan Rich Since 1987

by Anna AbouZeid '01

Some things never really change. Susan Rich is at the top of her field as an executive editor for Harper Collins in Toronto. Even at the beginning she was always an avid reader. "It started with Archie comic books, and proceeded onto Beverly Cleary." She began her time at BH in grade six where she quickly became involved when she was elected Vice Head Girl of Junior School. Later, she began teaching puppetry at the Prairie Theatre Exchange as well as becoming involved with the B'nai Brith Youth Organization.

After a year at the University of Manitoba, she transferred to McGill where she earned her B.A. She was originally there to study political science. But her curious mind enticed her to take children's literature courses. By the time she graduated, Susan had taken all the courses in that department the school had, and was offered a position as an undergraduate teaching assistant. This gave her the opportunity to work in a field that challenged her creative imagination. She believes that university is a place not only to earn a degree, but to explore your passions and to find your future, which is exactly what she did.

Upon graduation from McGill, Rich was thirsty for more in the magical world of children's books. She was offered a place in Boston's Simmons College, where she studied for her M.A. There, she realized that her true passion could lead to a career. Following graduation, she accepted various internships including working for Orchard Books. Following an interview in New York after college, she was offered a job on the spot. The job was at Simon and Schuster; a position which gave her exposure in the literary field. She intended only to stay one year in New York, but it stretched into ten, later finding work with Harper Collins in New York. After ten years, Susan returned to Canada to continue to work for Harper Collins in Toronto where she now she is an Executive Editor in the company. When asked about how she feels returning to Canada to work, she eagerly responded, "I'm really happy to be back in Canada. I feel like not telling anyone in the U.S. about Canada because I'd like to keep it as undiscovered as I think it is."

We should be keeping an eye out for the release of *The Carnivorous Carnival*, and later *Slippery Slope*, another Lemony Snickett book. Lemony

Snickett is the alter ego of author Daniel Handler. She has also been working with Gloria Waylan, who writes "epic, gut wrenching historical fiction," as well as Carol Goreman, author of *Dork in Disguise*.

In the time since she's graduated, Rich has had the opportunity to come back to Balmoral Hall for a friend's wedding reception which was held in Aikins House with her husband Joshua Greenhut. She looks back on her time at BH fondly. I feel "really lucky to grow up in such a nice city and such a great school. My roots are wonderful, and they've served me well." Rich explains, "I followed my interests, and studied something that (at first) I didn't think would directly translate into a professional career. I feel like a lot of people in university freak out and jump into 'professional' pursuits that directly translate into a professional job." She says though, that you have to follow your passion, and have faith that your interests will lead you to your calling. And with memories from Balmoral Hall, an exciting life in Toronto, and a challenging career, Susan Rich has certainly found her calling.

The BH Alumnae Association wants to know where you are and what you are doing. Share your milestone events such as academic achievements, weddings, births, promotions and awards, with the BH Family. We'll be sure to include you in the next edition of *The Portal*. Write, call or email us at alumnae@balmoralhall.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

1930s



"Best of friends over the years." Barbara "Betty" (Newcomb) Hill RIV '37 (left) and Lois (O'Grady) Pavlasek RLS '37 (right). Enjoying a visit at Betty's hobby farm near Chilliwack, B.C. Summer 2002.

1940s

Joan Katherine (Herd) Bunyan RIV '42

Joan returned to England after spending half a year on scholarship at United College. Her first job was at the British Council where she interviewed people like T.S. Elliot and W.H. Auden about their expense accounts. She then worked for the Shipping World which published sailing details. After marrying David Bunyan, she helped run his nursery gardens. They have one son, Garry. Joan now uses her other given name, Katherine. She teaches yoga and mediation and helps organize village activities.

Elizabeth (Gemmill) Yarnell RLS '45

She and John live in Toronto, have three children and eight grandchildren. In June, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. "I could hardly believe it! We seem to lead a busy life with the usual things – golf, travel, grandchildren etc. We are very fortunate."

Marianne (Burwood) Hollamby RLS '48



On Tuesday, May 14, the grade seven girls held a tea in their classroom for Marianne who was a student and boarder at Rupert's Land School during World War II. Now living in England, she has written an account of her life, entitled, *I Remember it in Colour*, including a vivid recollection of her time at Rupert's Land. The grade seven students studied her autobiography as part of their literature course this past school year. They were thrilled to meet Marianne in person while she was here in Canada for the alumnae *Centennial Reunion*.

Marianne has graciously donated copies of *I Remember it in Colour* to the School and encourages readers to make a donation in memory of Elsie M. Bartlett who sponsored her time at Rupert's Land. To receive a copy of Marianne's book, contact the Alumnae Office at 784-1603 or email alumnae@balmoralhall.com.

1950s

Jan (Carmen) Hansen RLS '52

Jan writes, "I often think of Miss Bartlett who called me into her office for a "talk" when I was acting up, which at that time was a serious thing! I started out with Miss Eldred, then Miss Smith, Miss Newton, and Miss Pearson, Miss Spears, Miss McLean, and Miss Sharman for Science and Miss Farady for gym. Rupe was on Carleton Street and how we all had fun going to Moir's Drug Store to get the latest movie magazine and discussing our favourites – now my granddaughter is doing that. I tell her of my time at Rupe and she tells me that there are times she wishes she could attend Balmoral Hall School. Living in California with me she could not be there, but I have some snapshots of "the old days" that bring alive some of the memories.



Reunion 1987 – Judy (Harris) Shantz '61, Betty (Foster) Johannsson RLS '41, Susan (Harris) Foster '64, Frances (Foster) Harris RLS '39



Easter Sunday 2002 – The same group just 15 years older! Still crazy after all these years!

Susan (Harris) Foster '64

Susan writes, "Greetings to our classmates! It looks pretty unlikely that any of us are going to be able to make the big party in the 'Peg so we wanted to send you all our very best wishes. Have a great get-together, party 'til you drop, and come away with that amazing school spirit we all shared after the last bash."

1960s

Lorraine (Allison) Ellis '64

Lorraine worked as a school social worker with the Child Guidance Clinic until 1977. Since 1981, she has been a social worker with the Alberta Government, initially as a Child Welfare caseworker and now as an intake worker for the SFI program.

The Class of '66

Enjoyed Ditte's hospitality and Eva's entertainment before *The Centennial Reunion* in May 2002.



Roxana (Bendas) Reagon '66

Roxana did not graduate from BH but was here for one year in 1960–61. She writes, "I was from Prince Albert, SK and I was 12 years old at the time. I remember crying for days because I was so lonely, but looking back on my time spent in the dorm, it wasn't as bad as I told my parents when I wrote them!"

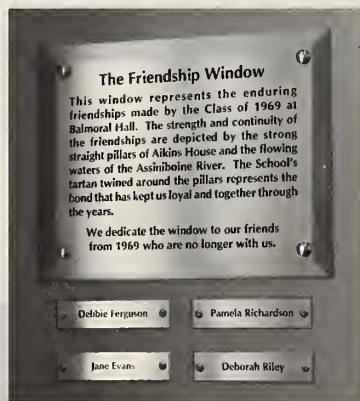
I am married and have two grown children. I edited a newspaper for many years and was a motivational speaker for many more years. I got tired of the rat race in Vancouver, my last place of residence, and I'm now teaching executives of a hotel chain near Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. We are year-round residents here, with our Standard Poodles, and enjoy life to the fullest.

Mary Cain '67

After living in Northern Manitoba and then London, England, Mary has settled in Brampton, near Toronto. She works as a therapist / counselor – individual, couple and family therapy.

Class of '69 Friendship Window Plaque

Some years ago, the Class of 1969 donated a stained glass window for the Kozminski Common Room. The design of this window represents the friendships created among classmates and is dedicated to four members of the Class of '69 who have passed away since graduation: Jane Evans, Debbie Ferguson, Pamela Richardson and Deborah Riley. A plaque with a description of the Friendship Window is now displayed in the Kozminski Common Room, a room where Senior School students spend their free time sharing hopes, dreams, fears and aspirations.



1970s

Sue Folinsbee '71

Sue just completed her Masters of Adult Education with a focus on workplace education. She was unable to attend the alumnae reunion because her graduation fell on the same weekend. She was married last June to her long-time partner, Howard Trotman. After operating her own consulting business for the last four years, she started a new job as Director of Field Development with the Ontario Literacy Coalition in Toronto. Her only daughter, Tannis, is graduating from law school this year.

Wendy Mathewson '78



Cover of Maclean's Magazine, June 10, 2002

In 1987, Wendy suffered a severe brain injury in a bizarre highway accident. Maclean's magazine profiled Wendy in their June 10th issue with a story that charts her remarkable struggle to reclaim her life.

Robin (Munro) Mingotti '89

After graduation, Robin moved to BC and is loving every minute of it. She received her MCBC Diploma and is currently teaching computers. In 2000, she married Paul Mingotti (from Winnipeg) and had their first child Nathan Tyler on December 8th, 2001. "Sherry Dunn, if you happen to read this, I would love to hear from you. Cheers to all!"

1990s

Heather (Jessiman) Partridge '90

Heather and her husband Chris are delighted to announce the arrival of their first son, Thomas Duncan, born on December 24, 2001 in Toronto, weighing 7 lbs., 8 oz.

Jennifer Baron '91

Jennifer lives in Toronto and was recently married to Rob Montemarano. In January 2002, she ran her first marathon at Walt Disney World as a member of the Arthritis Society's Joints in Motion Training Team. Jennifer met and surpassed her fundraising commitment to increase the quality of life for Canadians living with arthritis.

1980s

Carol (Wintemute) Lama '88



Carol has been living in Toronto since 1996 and has spent the last few years as a Pharmaceutical Sales Rep. She was married in November 2000 to "a wonderful man," Brad Lama, and on December 28, 2001 they welcomed their son, Truxton John into their lives. "Life is beautiful! I look forward to hearing from some of my long lost friends."



Class of 1993

Ready for your Ten Year Reunion? Can you believe it has been ten years! The Alumnae Office is more than happy to help you plan your reunion. Interested in coordinating? Call the office at (204) 784-1603.

Jackie Honey '93

Jackie writes, "After having been relatively out of touch for many years, I received a *Portal* magazine back in the spring. It is wonderful to see the success of the school and its students. I perused the magazine carefully for any mention of former classmates or other students I have known over the years. My memories of BH (1981–88) while I was in Junior School are ones I cherish and I will definitely consider enrolling my (future) children in BH when I return to Winnipeg. Thank you for reconnecting me with part of my past!"

Michelle Clarke '94

Michelle was this year's keynote speaker at Closing Exercises. Turn to page 14 for her address to the Class of 2002.

Jennifer (Ryback) DiMarco '94



After graduating from BH, Jennifer relocated to Montreal, and studied psychology at McGill University. It was in Montreal that she met and married her husband Philip DiMarco. The two relocated to Texas, where Jennifer received her B.A. in Psychology in 1999. They have since settled in Ottawa where Jennifer furthered her studies and subsequently received her B.A. in Psychology from Carleton University in 2001. Since May 11, 2002 at 11:28 p.m., the DiMarco's have welcomed the newest addition to their family, their handsome son, Palmarino Roberto DiMarco.

Shauna Labman '95

Shauna will be graduating from UVic Law in December 2002 and moving to Ottawa for a clerkship at the Federal Court of Appeal in September 2003.



Rebecca Lechman '95

Rebecca Lechman '95 has come back to BH as the Residence Supervisor. After BH she attended the University of Manitoba where she studied sciences and graduated with a B.Sc. She has also helped tutor adult students at an alternative learning school for their GED. She kept busy at the Black Hole Theatre on campus where she was Secretary, Publicist and stage manager. She has also completed the Backstage class of lights, sound, and set construction. Rebecca has been involved with the Winnipeg Fringe Festival as a stage manager. We are excited to have her back with us at BH.

Maria Reimer '95

Maria was married to John Kennett in Winnipeg on May 10, 2002. Moira Gustafson '95 was her Maid of Honour, and she was fortunate to have many of my old BH friends in attendance, including Rebecca Lechman '95, Fern Cronshaw '95, Navdeep Sandhu '95 and Megan Kozminski '94. She and John are currently living in Fredericton, New Brunswick, where she is in Law School, and John is studying Philosophy.

Jennifer Fultz '96

At the 2002 spring Convocation of the University of Winnipeg, Jennifer received the Governor General's Gold Medal for the highest standing in a Master's degree.

Ryann Jessiman '97

Greeting's BHers, though I never thought it would happen, I have landed myself back in Winnipeg permanently – at least for one winter. I've just completed a double degree in Outdoor Recreation and History at Lakehead University, where I also was a member of the Varsity volleyball team. After a summer of traveling in Alaska, I have settled down to work, I am currently the fitness director at the Winnipeg Winter Club. So if anyone out there need a new fitness regime or want to catch up, I would love to hear from you, email me at ryanns@hotmai.com

Alexis Cloutier '98



On the February 23, 2002 weekend, Alexis Cloutier participated in the 50th National Collegiate Handball Championships at Texas A&M University. Over 200 students represented 33 universities and colleges from the United States, Canada and Ireland. Alexis made it to the quarterfinals of the women's draw, which featured an all-time high of 60 women. At the banquet, Alexis was honoured with the Sabo Scholarship for her high academic standing and participation in the handball community.

2000s

Renata Choptiany '01

Renata lived for the past year in Brazil and loved every minute. She wrote, "It is about +30 down here every day, and I will be traveling all around the North East of Brazil for one month! But the fun will end sometime, and then I'll have to get back to the books."

Ashley Dunlop '01

Congratulations goes out to Ashely Dunlop '01 who has been awarded two scholarships. The first one was from The Canada Millennium Foundation in the form of a National Excellence Award for the 2002–03 academic year. The award is valued at \$4,800 and is renewable up to four years. The second scholarship is from the University of Toronto to enter their International Development Studies Program that is a four-year undergraduate degree. It includes a year internship in a developing country. This \$10,000 scholarship is renewable annually as long as certain minimum grade levels are maintained.



Caroline Monnon '02, Ashley Zajac '02 and Erin Mitchell '02.

Away at Acadia together, still matching!

Home for the Holidays

Young Alums from 1998 to 2003 are invited to celebrate the holiday season with classmates on Thursday, December 19, 2002 in Aikins House. Watch for your invitation or check the School's website for details.

Former Staff

Pam (MacCharles) Pettigrew '60 writes, "What a great reunion! We heard by the grapevine that Nellie Lucas was in a nursing home in Winnipeg. So we decided to pay her a visit (myself, Lori (McDougall) Walker '60 and Marilyn (Hawkins) Leggett '60).

Nellie Lucas former staff of Rupert's Land and BH.



As boarders, Miss Lucas was like a mother – always a little smile, a kind word, but the knowledge on our part, that she knew EVERYTHING that was going on! We received our allowance once a week, and our mail from her hand directly. She was always available to help.

We had a visit with her and her older sister for about one hour where I was able to take this great picture! Her only request at the end of our visit was "Would you write me a letter?" We left a note on her bedroom wall about her time at Balmoral Hall so that staff and other visitors would know of her dedication to so many "girls" and staff! Not a dry eye amongst us (staff too!) as we departed. Thanks Nellie! – Pam, Lori, and Marilyn.

Staff

Natalie Landgraff



Congratulations to Mrs. Landgraff on the birth of her baby girl Talia, born July 7, 2002 and weighing 8 lbs., 4 oz.



Shawna Cogan

We welcome Mrs. Cogan's twins to the BH Family! Born July 31, 2002, Joshua and Lindsay are healthy and happy.

Lois Robinson



Congratulations to Ms Robinson, Technology Department Head and winner of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce 2002 Innovation Award for Women in Technology. The award was presented during the Business Innovation & Growth Conference in May.

Geneviève Delaquis

Congratulations to Gen and her husband on their new arrival, a baby girl! Sofie Gloria Delaquis was born September 5, 2002 at 1:59 a.m. weighing 7 lbs., 15 oz. and is 20.5".



PARTY IN YOUR CITY?

Interested in organizing an alumnae reception in your city? If so, please let the Alumnae Office know! We have over 1,200 alumnae living outside of Winnipeg and would love to hold more frequent gatherings to keep everyone connected.

To find out how many alumnae live in your city and how to start planning a get-together, please contact the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603 or alumnae@balmoralhall.com

In Memorium

Margery (Wood) Gemmill

Mrs. Gemmill attended Havergal College from 1909–19. She passed away on December 1, 2001 at the age of 98 in Vancouver.

Audrey (FitzGerald) Roberts RLS '21

Died peacefully on August 20, 2000. Audrey treasured her memories of Rupert's Land and always read, with great interest, the school magazine and newsletters. She also enjoyed the beautiful Christmas cards from young students at the school.



Mary (Machray) Carey RLS '22

Active until the end, Mrs. Carey passed away peacefully on February 7, 2002.

Georgina (Booth) McGregor RLS '44

Daphne Ann (Goulding) Vodrey RLS '46

November 24, 2001 – Daphne and her husband, Jack lived in the States all their married life and retired in Banning, California where they lived for the past ten years.



Frances "Dime" (Aikins) Riley RIV '34

Dime Riley died quietly at home in Winnipeg on Friday, May 3, 2002 after a brief illness and a long and full life. She was a woman of many accomplishments but was known for her grace, kindness and integrity.

Born the daughter of Colonel Harold and Myrtle Aikins in Winnipeg in 1917, she grew up in the Red House (on the current school grounds). Her grandfather, Sir

James Aikins founded the Canadian Bar Association and was Manitoba's Lieutenant Governor. He lived in the White House, now known as Aikins House. The school was her home.

Mrs. Riley's upbringing was in an atmosphere of privilege, but also of duty. She was one of the first students at Riverbend at age 12. By age 17, Dime had matriculated in Winnipeg and completed a further year's schooling in England. After completing an Honours degree in English and Music at the University of Manitoba, Dime married Conrad (C.S.) Riley in May 1940.

C.S. was soon off to England as an officer with the Royal Canadian Artillery, so Dime joined the Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC). In 1942, at the age 25, she commanded the first Company of 500 CWAC officers and enlisted women posted to England, where she occasionally reunited with C.S. In 1943, Dime was honourably discharged, with the rank of acting Major, to return to Winnipeg and give birth to their first child, Conrad Jr.

C.S. returned in December 1944 and he and Dime spent 55 more years together, based in Winnipeg. Although Dime chose to focus on being a homemaker and to be supportive of C.S. in his career and his activities, she found time to help others and distinguish herself. She worked hard for many organizations and attended weekly yoga exercises for over thirty years, to the end of her days.

Dime was on the first Advisory Committee for the school and most recently, she served on the Heritage Committee of the Alumnae Association in restoring Aikins House for the centennial celebrations. She also came to the school to be interviewed by students for a history project and attended several school functions. Dime's strength of character, sense of humour, dedication and generosity will be with us forever.



Margaret (Galt) Aldous RIV '35

Margaret died in New York City on July 18, 2002, the result of a tragic accident.

Entering Riverbend on its opening day, she graduated in 1935 and thereafter obtained a B.A. from the University of Manitoba.

Professionally, Margaret was involved in sales and sales-staff training with the Hudson's Bay Co. in Winnipeg, then with Abraham and Strauss in Brooklyn, New York. She also contracted with Saks Fifth Avenue.

Margaret loved to travel, she visited countries all over the world. One of the last trips was to the Balmoral Hall Reunion last May, where she enjoyed visiting with all her dear, old friends.

Robin (Little) Brown RIV '46

Passed away at the age of 74; in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Carolyn (Elliot) Egan RIV '49

August 2000

Linda Graham '87

February 27, 2002

Linda struggled valiantly against the insufferable pain caused by Chronic Intestinal Pseudo Obstruction, the same disease that took her mother in 1979.

Ill on and off for the past 15 years, Linda virtually spent the last four years in the hospital. Last May, she was the recipient of a four organ transplants performed at the Toronto General Hospital.



Lynn McLean

December 23, 2001

Past Staff Grade 6 (1981-83) and Head of JS (1983-85) Lynn was an ardent and gifted teacher. She was afflicted with reoccurrent cancer, which forced her to leave her teaching career in 1994. She devoted her time to volunteer projects concerning breast cancer.

Natalya Ioffe (mother of Simona Ioffe '01)

Passed away on March 31, 2002 at the age of 50 from ovarian cancer.

What's New With YOU?

Has anything changed lately in your life?

Tell us about it!

New job? Just married? Traveling? Having a baby?

Name: _____

Class of: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Your News: _____

Send us Photos!

Mentor Search

"There is no better way to learn about a university or career than talking to someone who is already there."

If you are interested in becoming a Mentor, please contact the Alumnae Office at (204) 784-1603 or email us at alumnae@balmoralhall.com

Name: _____

Class of: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Area of Experience: _____

The Spring 2003 Portal



A New look!

Beginning with the Spring 2003 edition of *Portal* magazine, you will notice some exciting changes – **more colour, a bright fresh appearance and more pages to better communicate to students, alumnae and staff**, the exciting events at Balmoral Hall.

In order to provide this enhanced publication, we will be **introducing advertising** into *The Portal* for the first time. This decision has been thoroughly researched to ensure that the costs associated with producing and distributing *The Portal* can be funded with these revenues. These costs, which are currently borne entirely by the School, will be redirected towards student programs, scholarships and bursaries.

With over 4,000 readers, *Portal* represents an excellent opportunity for advertisers. We want to assure you that only select businesses and services will be offered this opportunity. Advertisers approached will not only have a product or service to market, but will also support the educational objectives and philosophy of Balmoral Hall School.

We are eagerly looking forward to bringing you the "new look" *Portal*.



Famous Artist's Chair
by **Crystal Li – Senior 4**
acrylic on wood
– following a study of Alma Thomas



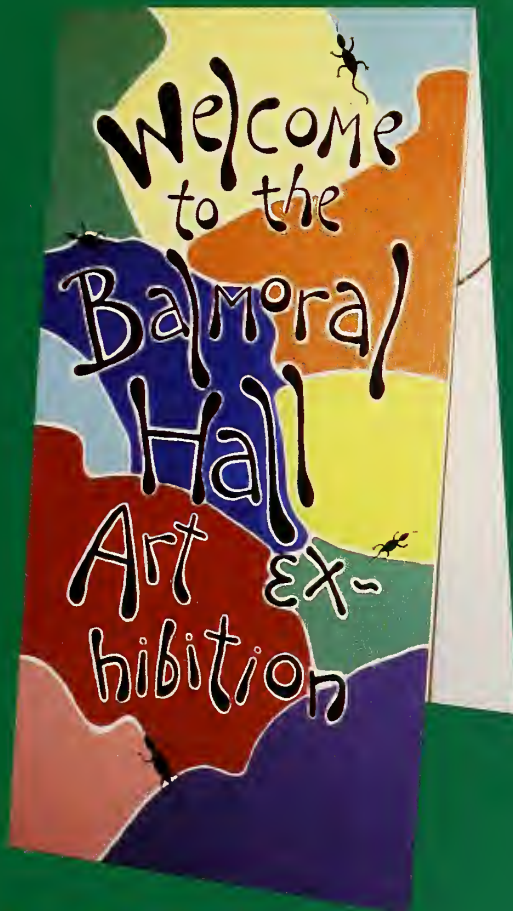
'Places of Their Own Bench' based on the works of Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe and Emily Carr.
Student work by **Anna Szyzkowska and Emily Burlton – G.A.P. Students**



Famous Artist's Chairs
by **Kristi-Marie Guzda and Joyce Hong – Senior 3 and 4**
acrylic on wood
– following a study of Georgia O'Keeffe



Image Manipulation
by **May Yung – Senior 1**
coloured pencil and acrylic on paper
– following a study of Frida Kahlo



by **Joyce Hong – Senior 4**



Op Art
by **Daniela Mijares Perez – Grade 8**
acrylic on paper
– following a study of Bridget Riley



Self Portrait
by **Joyce Hong – Senior 4**
acrylic and ink on paper



Fantasy Art
by **Carmen Hui – Senior 3**
acrylic on paper
– following a study of Fleur Cowles



Section of The Six Months After Project
Social Comment by all **Senior 3 and 4**
Studio Art Students.
mixed media on canvas



From Natural Form to Abstraction
by **Stephanie McGregor – Senior 2**
acrylic on panel
– following a study of Georgia O'Keeffe



Dinner Setting
by **Ashley McGregor – Senior 2**
mixed media
– following an art critique and study of Alexandra Exter's 'Grapes in a Vases.'



Belmoral Hall, a leading contemporary
all-girls school, is committed to a
tradition of academic excellence

M e l i o r a P e t e n s

We educate, encourage and empower
our girls and young women to achieve
their personal best.